

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to develop a reference database of statewide health-related data; Secretary of Health and*
3 *Human Resources.*

4 [S 565]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 1. § 1. A. *Secretary of Health and Human Resources to develop a reference database of statewide*
8 *health-related data elements. In order to facilitate the exchange and use of information between the*
9 *agencies within the Secretariat of Health and Human Resources, the Secretary of Health and Human*
10 *Resources shall develop a reference database of statewide health-related data elements. The reference*
11 *database shall be developed in accordance with the provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and*
12 *Accountability Act (HIPAA).*

13 B. *In order to develop the reference database, each agency within the Health and Human Resources*
14 *Secretariat shall submit to the Secretary the following information: (i) a list of the names and a general*
15 *narrative description of its existing automated systems containing statewide health-related data; (ii) the*
16 *hardware and software platforms upon which each identified system is running; and (iii) a data*
17 *dictionary describing the data fields comprising the system, which data dictionary shall include a*
18 *narrative description of each data field.*

19 C. *The Secretary shall compile the information submitted by each agency into the reference database.*
20 *Further, the Secretary shall ensure that each agency within the Secretariat uses the database*
21 *information to the greatest extent possible to improve the overall efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the*
22 *services rendered by these agencies. The reference database shall be updated by the Secretary as*
23 *necessary.*

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